REMARKS

By the present response, Applicant has submitted new claims 21-25 for consideration by the Examiner and assert that these claims do not contain any prohibited new matter. Further, Applicant has amended claims 15 and 17-19 to further clarify the invention. Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,192,230 (Van Bokhorst et al.). Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Bokhorst et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,480,476 (Willars). Claims 10, 11, 13, 15, 16 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Bokhorst et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0132603 (Lindskog et al). Claims 19 and 20 have been allowed. Claims 6, 12, 14 and 17 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 19 and 20 and indicating that claims 6, 12, 14 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Bokhorst et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Van Bokhorst et al. discloses a wireless data communication system that is operable in a power saving mode wherein stations are synchronized to be in an awake state to receive synchronizing messages and traffic indicator information, and are changed to a doze state if they are not to receive data messages. In a first embodiment, all stations communicate via a base station access point, which broadcasts synchronizing messages at regular intervals identifying stations that are to receive data messages. In a second embodiment, all stations communicate directly with one another, and one station assumes the role of a master station and broadcasts synchronizing messages.

Regarding claim 1, Applicant submits that Van Bokhorst et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of this claim. For example, the Examiner asserts that Van Bokhorst et al. discloses a communication sensitivity checking portion configured to check a sensitivity of at least one communications channel used to communicate with an external

access point and to output a sensitivity signal, at col. 2, lines 6-25. However, these portions merely disclose that a selected one of the data communication stations controls the transmission of synchronizing messages to the other communication stations and identifies stations that are to receive data messages, and that the selected stations are controlled to be in an awake state to receive the synchronizing messages and are changed to a doze state following receipt of the synchronizing messages if no data messages are to be received. This is not a communication sensitivity checking portion configured to check a sensitivity of at least one communications channel used to communicate with a external access point and to output a sensitivity signal, as recited in the claims of the present application. These portions of Van Bokhorst et al. merely relate to one station sending synchronization messages to other selected stations where the selected stations are in an awake state in order to receive the synchronizing messages. These portions do not disclose or suggest checking a sensitivity of a communication channel, or outputting a sensitivity signal.

Further, the Examiner asserts that Van Bokhorst et al. discloses a power mode changing portion configured to change a power mode of the wireless communication device between a working mode and at least one sleep mode based on the sensitivity signal, at col. 7, lines 49-55. However, these portions merely disclose that the mobile wireless station can operate in either a power-save mode or in a continuous-active mode where in the power-save mode, the station can be in an awake state in which it is fully operational, or in a doze state in which the wireless

transceiver operates at a reduced power level. This is not a power mode changing portion configured to change a power mode of the wireless communication device between a working mode and at least one sleep mode based on the sensitivity signal, as recited in the claims of the present application. These portions of Van Bokhorst et al. merely relate to a power save mode where the station can be in an awake mode or in a doze state. This is not changing a power mode based on a sensitivity signal output from a communication sensitivity checking portion, as recited in the claims of the present application. Van Bokhorst et al. discloses a station that starts participation in the network being in the awake state until it receives a PSYNC message that triggers the doze timer to initiate the doze state (see col. 8, lines 16-45).

Regarding claims 2, 4, 5, and 7-9, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on independent claim 1 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding this independent claim.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Van Bokhorst et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7-9 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Bokhorst et al. in view of Willars. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and submits that

this claim is dependent on independent claim 1 and, therefore, is patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding this independent claim. Applicant submits that Willars does not overcome the substantial defects noted previously regarding Van Bokhorst et al.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that none of the cited references, taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of claim 3 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn and that this claim be allowed.

Claims 10, 11, 13, 15, 16 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Bokhorst et al. in view of Lindskog et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Regarding claims 11 and 15, Applicant submits that none of the cited references, taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of these claims. For example, as noted previously, col. 2, lines 6-25 of Van Bokhorst et al. does not disclose or suggest checking means for checking a communication sensitivity of at least one communications channel, as recited in the claims of the present application.

Further, the Examiner asserts that Van Bokhorst et al. discloses switching means for switching a power mode of the wireless LAN module to a power down mode if the checking means determines that communication sensitivity is less than a predefined sensitivity value, and

wherein the switching means is also configured to switch the power mode of the wireless LAN module to a normal mode after a predetermined delay elapses after the power mode has been set to the power down mode, at col. 8, lines 29-45. However, these portions merely disclose the durations of the low-power periods and the full-power periods, and as noted previously, that when a station participates in the network it is in the awake state until it receives a PSYNC message that triggers the doze state and timer, and that when the doze timer expires the station switches to the awake state and waits for messages to be received. This is not switching a power mode of a wireless LAN module to a power down mode if the checking means determines that communication sensitivity is less than a predefined sensitivity value, as recited in the claims of the present application. Van Bokhorst et al. does not disclose or suggest a predefined sensitivity value that determines whether a power mode is switched to a power down mode.

In addition, the Examiner asserts that Van Bokhorst et al. discloses checking a communication of the set channel, at col. 8, lines 36-37. However, these portions merely disclose as noted previously that a station is in the awake state until it receives a PSYNC message. This is not checking a communications sensitivity of the set channel, as recited in the claims of the present application.

Moreover, the Examiner asserts that Van Bokhorst et al. discloses changing a power mode of the wireless LAN module to a sleep mode if the results of the checking indicate that the communication sensitivity is less than a predetermined sensitivity value, at col. 8, lines 39-41.

However, as noted previously, these portions merely disclose that the reception of the PSYNC message triggers the doze timer. This is not a communications sensitivity being less than a predetermined sensitivity value, as recited in the claims of the present application.

Regarding claims 10, 13, 16 and 18, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1, 11 and 15 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding these claims.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that none of the cited references, taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of claims 10, 11, 13 15, 16 and 18 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

New Claims

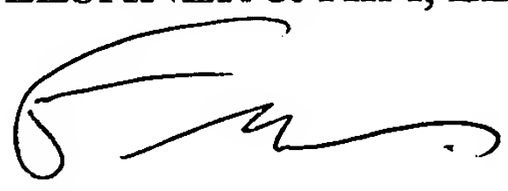
For reasons similar to those previously presented regarding claims 1-20, Applicant submits that claims 21-25 are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be entered and allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1-25 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, Frederick D. Bailey, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



John C. Eisenhart
Registration No. 38,128
Frederick D. Bailey
Registration No. 42,282

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
(703) 766-3701 DYK/JCE/FDB:tlg
Date: October 13, 2006
\\Fk4\Documents\2019\2019-153\100434.doc
Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610